



Town of Sudbury
Town Manager Newsletter
August 24, 2012

Message from the Town Manager

Greetings!

Town staff and the Board of Selectmen, as I write, are suddenly and unexpectedly preparing for a Special Town Meeting (STM) to be held on September 24, 2012 at the L-S High School auditorium. State law requires the Board of Selectmen call a Special Town Meeting, with all its expenses (estimated at \$9,600) and additional work for staff, if at least 200 Sudbury residents sign a petition calling for a Special Town Meeting. A Framingham resident gathered the required signatures so that two articles he wrote could be considered by Sudbury voters. Both articles are in the forms of resolutions asking State and Federal legislators who represent Sudbury to file legislation. But Town Meeting cannot compel legislators to file legislation, and both resolutions are items that the Board of Selectmen, had they been consulted, could have handled through a vote of the Board.

In discussions I have had with several residents who signed the petition, they indicated they were unaware that the petition they were signing would trigger a Special Town Meeting. They believed they were signing a petition indicating their support of a message to the Board of Selectmen. Perhaps the other residents who signed the petition fully understood their signatures would compel the Town to incur significant costs to hold the STM, and they plan to be at the STM to cast their vote for the two articles on the petition. My hope is that every Sudbury registered voter will always carefully consider any petition they might be asked to sign.

In an effort to make lemonade out of lemons, the Board has asked staff and other Town boards and committees if there are other matters that could be acted on at the Special Town Meeting. This is being done, handicapped considerably by the timing as many folks are on vacation during the 10 days the warrant is open for adding other articles. Ironically, one of the petition articles written by the Framingham resident asks legislators to file legislation eliminating unfunded State and Federal mandates. Due to a State mandate that the Town must hold a STM 45 days from receipt of the petition, Sudbury must hold this Special Town Meeting so early in the fall that it effectively prevents us from using this Special Town Meeting most efficiently to meet our needs.

Sincerely,

Maureen G. Valente, Town Manager

Highlights of the 8.15.12 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Details for carrying out the Special Town Meeting were the highest priority item for the Board. The Board discussed a request from the Sudbury Public School Committee and the Permanent Building Committee to add an article requesting appropriation of funds to repair the roof on the Nixon Elementary School. Sudbury previously submitted to the State a request for grant funding to assist with the cost of this repair work. We were recently notified that we could be awarded a grant for approximately 35% of the cost of this project, IF the State gives final approval at a meeting of the School Building Authority in November, IF we follow an accelerated schedule for the work and IF we secure funding via a Town Meeting vote and approval for the exemption of the debt costs from the limits of Proposition 2 ½ at a Town election. The Board had originally planned a Special Town Meeting to consider this question for December or January, after we find out if we are approved for the grant. Instead, the Board approved putting this question on the September 24th Special Town Meeting warrant, so that we might save the cost of a second Special Town Meeting.

The Board considered the question of when to schedule a Special Town Election to ask voters if they approve acceptance of the Senior Tax legislation recently signed by the Governor. They agreed that if the Nixon article is approved at the Special Town Meeting in September, they will call for a Special Election in early December, and put both questions on that ballot.

The Board continued their discussions of next steps regarding the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in Sudbury. The Board met with Debbie Dineen, Conservation Coordinator for Sudbury, who presented a memo from Town staff seeking direction from the Board on several questions. One major direction from the Board was that the project should follow all local bylaws for permitting and construction of the Trail. Staff also presented the Board with a draft timeline they hope to follow to develop a concept plan for the Trail in Sudbury.

In other items, the Board appointed resident Bob Morrison to the Sudbury Housing Trust, appointed election officers, approved an amended planting plan submitted by NSTAR with an additional request for \$30,000 to maintain the plants, approved three contracts for Town Manager signature, approved a special permit for the Colonial Fair and Muster of Fifes and Drums for September 29, approved the creation of a “Sudbury Celebrates 375 Committee” and accepted a \$1,000 donation from a film production company in appreciation for use of the Town Hall parking lot.

Lastly, the Board had discussions about several projects that involve the Board: the proposed renovation of the Minuteman Regional Vocational and Technical High School, the Rt. 20 Sewer Steering and Citizens’ Advisory Committees, and on-going projects of the Energy and Sustainability Committee.

From the Selectmen’s office

As noted above, the Board of Selectmen approved a [Mission Statement](#) for the creation of the *Sudbury Celebrates 375 Committee*. We are officially kicking off a campaign to gather ideas, events and, most importantly, residents who would like to join the Committee and become a part of commemorating Sudbury’s history. This will be a major undertaking and many hands will be needed to make it all happen. Officially, Sudbury commemorates its 375th year of incorporation on September 4, 2014.

In 1989, when Sudbury turned 350, it was a tremendously successful event and we have the evidence to prove it – pictures, reports, and even films. If this sounds exciting, interesting and important to you as a resident, we hope to hear from you. Let's give Sudbury a 375th party to remember! Please complete an [Application for Appointment](#) form and forward it to Selectmen@sudbury.ma.us . We'll take it from there.

Accounting Department

The end of June and the month of July is a wonderful but busy time of year for the Accounting Office, with much activity taking place. This is the time when all the hard work throughout the fiscal year pays off. It is a thrill for us when all revenue, expenditures and balance sheet accounts are in balance at year end. Everything has to be in balance before we can close the financial software in order to process year-end reporting to all the respective governmental agencies.

Accounts Payable had two warrants going at once; one to close out FY2012 and another for FY2013 expenses. Payroll was just as busy with multiple payrolls to close out FY12 and to pay FY13 salaries.

While all these warrants were in the process of being completed, the Accounting Office was very busy working with the Personnel & Technology Departments to finalize the mitigation payments to all retirees and active employees. The mitigation payments were successfully paid within the first two/threes weeks of August. Now that that has all been completed, we begin to prepare for the Town's annual audit.

Conservation Commission

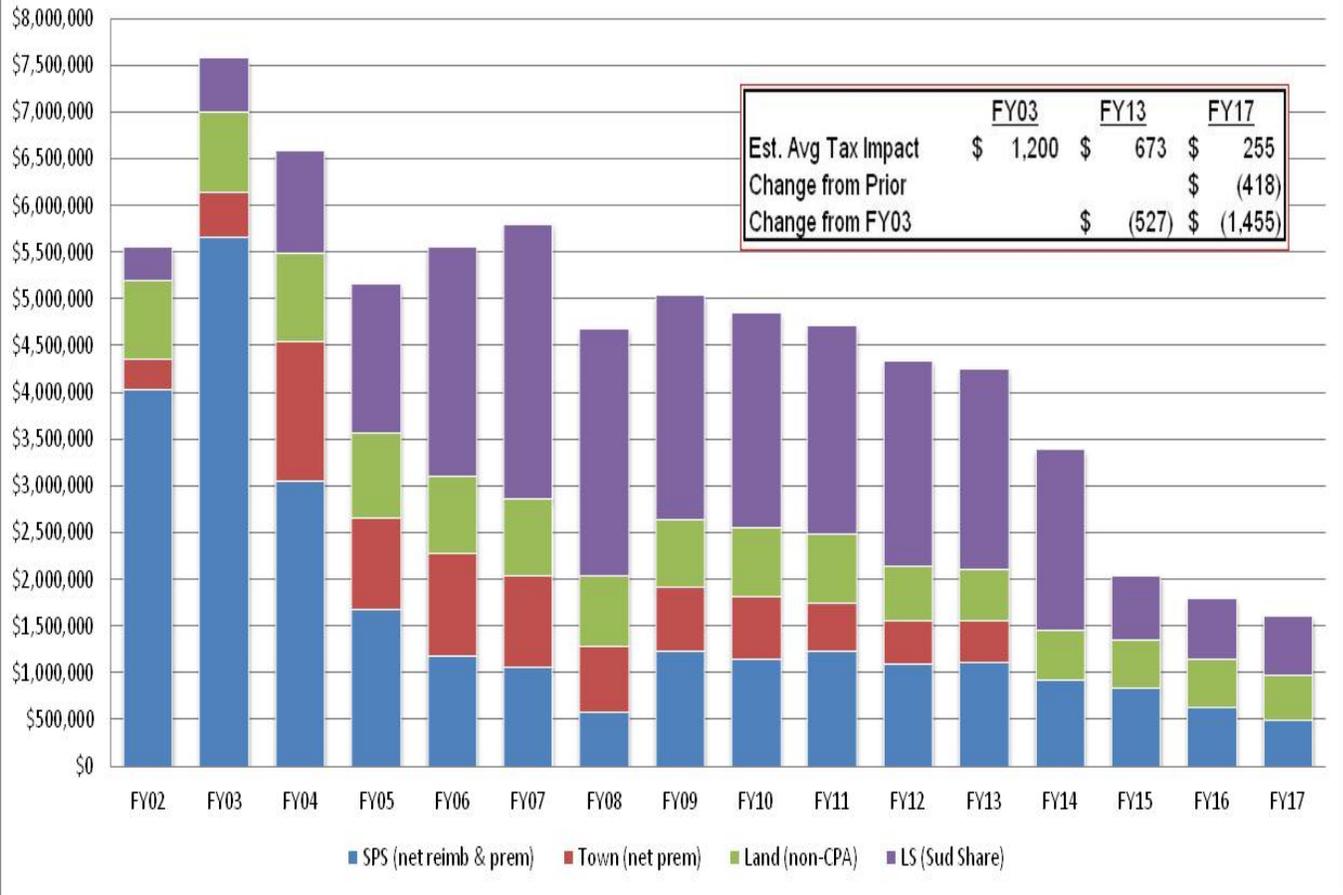
The Conservation Commission has closed the hearing on the Johnson Farm 40B project. Deliberations will begin on Sept. 10th with a wetlands decision anticipated at the end of September. We are also working with Raytheon on a multi-year phased plan to upgrade the drainage system on the Sudbury campus. The first phase involves restoring the storage capacity in their drainage system and providing additional pre-treatment of parking lot runoff in the central parking area.

ConCom Chairman John Sklenak is the Commission's liaison to state Fisheries & Wildlife and Trout Unlimited for a pilot project in Sudbury to actively identify remaining cold water fisheries resources. These are streams with cold water fish such as brook trout. Following almost one year of investigation, the Commission is happy to report that we are finding more trout streams than we initially anticipated. Appropriate wetlands, stormwater, and roadway project permitting has been working to protect the quality of some of these resources. We will be looking at where enhancements can be made to streams to better support cold water fisheries.

Finance Department

“Sudbury is nearing the end of a long period when debt for school projects (including LSRHS) resulted in high debt per household. The estimated average tax for debt service has dropped 44% since a peak in debt expenditures in FY03. We are now entering a time when the Town may consider taking on new long-term debt to pay for critical projects all within a reasonable level of debt expenditures per household on an ongoing basis”. Andrea Terkelsen/Finance Director

Debt Service Expenditures



Board of Health

New information is coming out weekly from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project on the risk of EEE and West Nile Virus (WNV). Testing in July found a positive EEE mosquito trap sample in Sudbury. The Board of Health was notified on August 22 of positive WNV mosquito samples near Sudbury. In response to the notice mosquito traps were set on August 22 to test for WNV and EEE in Sudbury. The overall risk for mosquito-borne illness for human disease from WNV and EEE is currently at a moderate level throughout the town. Catch basins are a likely source for WNV positive mosquitoes and they are treated in town, however, residents can help further control potential WNV positive mosquitoes by emptying water holding containers weekly on their property.

Department of Public Works

The DPW has an update on this summer's paving activities. The majority of the roads as part of our pavement management program have been resurfaced with the exception of Powdermill Road, Nashoba Road, Meadow Drive, Pheasant Ave, Gerry Drive, Wash Brook Road, and Pine Ridge Road.

We are replacing the drainage system on Walkup Road from Concord Road to the dead end. We installed two catch basins on Old Sudbury Road.

Harvesting of Water Chestnut from Carding Mill Pond was completed. The Hop Brook Association was able to extend the use of the USFWL Harvester for two weeks, and we were able to take advantage of it by harvesting Water Chestnut from Stearn's Mill Pond.

The Road crew is repairing Hudson Road walkway from Fairbank Road to Teakettle Lane.

Public Safety

Fire Department

The Sudbury Fire Department received a call for a house fire at 468 Dutton Road on Saturday, August 11, 2012, at 6:40 pm. Apparatus arrived to find the two car garage fully involved in flames with fire beginning to impinge upon the attached breezeway. Under the direction of Captain Douglas Stone, Sudbury Firefighters began their two pronged attack. As a water supply was established from a nearby hydrant, crews deployed hand lines and a 1000 gallon per minute ladder pipe to the flames in the garage. At the same time, Captain Stone ordered personnel into the breezeway to begin tearing out the ceiling for the purpose of deploying a hand line into the rafters above. With access to the area over the breezeway gained, firefighters were able to drive the fire back toward the garage and away from the house. The garage was a total loss and the breezeway area was damaged, but the house sustained only a slight exposure to smoke. After a thorough cleaning, the residents were able to move back into their home just four days later. There were no injuries to residents or to responding firefighters.

There were a few preventative factors that contributed to such a positive outcome. A recent change in the State Building Code requires a heat detector to be installed in garages attached to, or under, a residence. The detector must be interconnected to an alarm that is audible from the living area. This garage was recently constructed and equipped with the required alarm system. Early detection was a key factor in the safe evacuation of the occupants and their ability to notify us. In addition, a simple old Fire Service adage tells us, "Volumes of Fire Need Volumes of Water." A minivan with a full tank of gasoline was fully involved in flames inside the garage, adding to the volume of fire. The hydrant right across the street provided the volumes of water, assisting firefighters in their efforts to save the home.

Captain Douglas Stone, Lieutenant Dana Foster, and responding Sudbury Fire personnel should be recognized for their timely execution of effective firefighting tactics. Firefighter Rob Beer served as the Dispatcher and did a fine job coordinating our efforts and the mutual aid assistance from surrounding towns. Because of their combined expertise, the family's home and possessions were preserved.

Police Department

The Department recently hired two dispatchers as part of our dispatch consolidation project. Trisha Longo who has 10+ years of police and fire dispatching experience with Wayland public safety, and Ryan Miller who has five years of experience dispatching police and fire for the city of Worcester. We also have a student officer, Owen Griffin, attending the Municipal Police Academy in Lowell. He has completed about 11 weeks of a 22 week program and appears to be doing quite well to this point.

Installation of new school speed zone signs was completed last week; these were installed in front of Noyes school and the Nixon Schools. These signs are a little larger and more noticeable than the original signs that were many years old. Also, they are equipped with driver feedback capability which will alert motorists of their speed as they enter the school zone.

Library

Goodnow Library Community Survey 2012

Help us plan for the future. Completing this survey will help identify areas where we can improve services and better understand the needs of the community.

Your input is very important!



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/goodnow2012>

We have plenty of paper copies in and around the library as well. We encourage patrons of all ages to fill out the survey. Also, if you have any friends or neighbors who do not use the library, their insights would also be extremely helpful to us.

EBooks

Have you purchased or received an electronic reading device? In addition to the content available for purchase, the library has about 40,000 electronic titles available for lending.

We have both e-book content to read and e-audiobook content to listen to.

Would you like to know how to access library and/or other free content? Bring your devices and your questions and we'll do our best to answer them for you! Help is available! Using your e-reader with Library e-books:

Monday, September 24, 6:30-8:30 pm

Tuesday, September 25, 2-4 pm

- *Different e-readers and audio devices & the different file types they use.
- *Wireless downloads vs. USB downloads for Kindle and Nook (and more)
- *iPad/iPhone Apps
- *Kindle Fire/Nook Tablet/Kobo Vox Apps and side loading
- *Configuring your device
- *Searching and downloading content

Park and Recreation Department

Sudbury Park & Recreation and Council on Aging Proudly Present: Sudbury Halloween 5K & 1-Mile Fun Run/Senior Stride!

Date: Sunday, October 28, 2012

5K Time: 11:00 AM

5K Cost: \$25.00

Fun Run/ Senior Stride: 12:00 PM

Fun Run/ Senior Stride Cost: \$10.00

T-shirts: Register by October 7th to be guaranteed a T-shirt!

Join us for our first Halloween 5K, Fun Run/Senior Stride! This is a great event for the whole family: run, walk, cheer, or volunteer! The 5K will be a timed event starting at 11:00 AM, followed by a 1-Mile Fun Run/Senior Stride around our paved Haskell Field loop. Free refreshments available for race participants. Costumes are encouraged, so get in the spirit!

Volunteers of all ages needed! High School community service hours opportunities! If interested, please email Nancy McShea at McSheaN@sudbury.ma.us.

Registration Information

Online Registration is strongly recommended and is the preferred method. [Click here](#) to register online. If you prefer to register in person or by mail, please print, fill out the information [registration form](#), and return to: Sudbury Park & Recreation/Atkinson Pool, 40 Fairbank Road, Sudbury, MA 01776.

Annual Pool Maintenance Shutdown

The Atkinson Pool will be closed for maintenance from Thursday, August 23 - September 3 and will re-open on Tuesday, September 4.

During this time, members of the Atkinson Pool can visit the Wayland Community Pool at 258 Old Connecticut Path in Wayland for their lap and family swim needs. The pool hours at Wayland are: Monday - Friday 6:00 a.m. to sundown, Saturday and Sunday 6:30 a.m. to sundown.

You must show your Atkinson Pool membership card at the Wayland Community Pool.

This offer is only for Atkinson Pool members; swim passes will not be accepted. If you have a swim pass or want to visit the Wayland pool for the day, they do offer day passes for \$20.

Wayland Community Pool: 508-358-8999

Thank you for your cooperation during this time as we work hard to make the pool a better place for everyone.

Fall Program Brochure

[Click Here](#): to download your very own copy of the Fall 2012 Program Brochure. You are welcome to register any time after this initial registration period as long as there is still space available in the program; everything is on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Please note that the print version of the brochure will be in mailboxes the last week in August.*

RECREATION REGISTRATION:

Wednesday, September 5th at 9:00 AM

POOL REGISTRATION:

Tuesday, September 11th at 9:00 AM for Pool Members

Thursday, September 13th at 9:00 AM for Non-Pool Members

Planning and Community Development

The Planning and Community Development Department (PCDD) submitted a LAND grant application to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs in July for up to \$400,000 towards the purchase price of the Pantry Brook Farm project. Grant awards will be made in November, with a potential closing on the project in late December. The grant application was supported by the Sudbury Valley Trustees.

A second grant will be completed by the PCDD for the MassWorks Infrastructure Program administered by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development for the Sudbury Town Center intersection project. A similar grant was submitted in 2011 but was not awarded. This program provides funding for the construction of publicly-owned infrastructure; however, competition is high for limited funds. The application will be for approximately \$1.1 million and is supported by the Raytheon Corporation, and the Towns of Maynard and Hudson.

The Planning Board will hold a public hearing on August 22, 2012 on the preliminary application of the Green Company for the construction of a Senior Residential Community located at 40 Tall Pine Drive. This property is the former Jones and Bartlett publishing company, and involves the demolition of the existing structure and construction of 26 housing units. The definitive plan and application are anticipated to be submitted in September or October 2012.

The Sudbury Senior Center

The Sudbury Senior Center is a focal point for Sudbury Seniors, providing social, recreational, and educational activities, as well as, support services such as Friendly visitors, Shopping volunteers and Medical appointment volunteers (FISH). The Center also serves as an information resource for local senior citizens. Through the Council on Aging, it plays an advocacy role for Seniors at the local, state and federal level.

Services currently available for Seniors are:

- Consultation for Seniors
- FISH - Volunteer Medical Transportation
- Friendly Visitor Program for Seniors
- Health Insurance, Tax, and Legal Assistance for Seniors
- Home Delivered Meals for Seniors
- In-Home Fix-It Program for Seniors
- Lock Boxes for Seniors
- Luncheons for Seniors
- Medical Equipment Loan for Seniors
- Senior Community Work Program
- Shopping Service for Seniors
- Van Transportation for Seniors
- Volunteer Medical Rides for Seniors

Please visit our Center or look us up on the Town Website!

Town Clerk

Voter Registration, Specimen Ballot and Precinct Information for State Primary Election, Thursday, September 6th

Voter Registration

Voter Registration for the September 6, 2012 State Primary concluded on Friday, August 17.
Voter Registration for the November 6, 2012 Presidential Election concludes on Wednesday, October 17.
The Town Clerk's Office will be open until 8pm on October 17 to accommodate last day registrations.
Voter Registration can be completed by mail or in person. For more information, visit the Town Clerk's Voter Registration Page at <http://sudbury.ma.us/news/3912/>

Ballot and Precinct Information

To find what precinct you reside in and view the September 6, 2012 State Primary Specimen Ballot for your precinct, visit <http://sudbury.ma.us/departments/Clerk/news3110/>

Where Do I Vote?

There are two polling locations in Sudbury:
Precincts 1, 1A, 2 and 5 votes at Fairbank Community Center, 40 Fairbank Road.
Precincts 3 and 4 vote at the Lower Town Hall, 322 Concord Road.

Polls open on Election Day at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

Sudbury Water District

The Sudbury Water District is not a part of the Town of Sudbury municipal structure. It is a totally separate entity with its own elected board and its own Chief Executive, Al Renzi, Superintendent.

The Board of Water Commissioners for the Water District of Sudbury was constituted by vote of a District Meeting held on April 25, 1934. This meeting created the Water District of Sudbury through a vote accepting the provisions of [Chapter 100](#) of the Acts of the General Court of Massachusetts for the year 1934. In accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of the warrant at that meeting, the District authorized the construction of a public water works system within the District, under direction of the Board of Water Commissioners. An Annual District Meeting has been held yearly since the date of its establishment. At this time an annual budget and individual Articles are presented to a forum of registered Town voters for approval of upcoming projects and improvements within the District. For additional information visit the Sudbury Water District site on the Town Website.

Located at 199 Raymond Road, hours are; 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Monday - Friday
Phone: 978-443-6602
customerservice@sudburywater.com